



Mirage Newsletter



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513th soldiers enjoy day of fun with USO show



Photo by Cpl. Brian Lamar

Command Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley throws frisbees and t-shirts to the crowd gathered in the gym.

By Cpl. Brian Lamar
Mirage Editor

Soldiers of 513th Military Intelligence Brigade were given a "morale booster shot" when the "On Duty for You" tour recently visited Camp Doha, Kuwait Dec. 20th.

The USO tour featured the Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley, the U.S. Army Band, country-recording artist Darryl Worley, World Wrestling Entertainment Champion Bradshaw, actress from the hit show JAG, Karri Turner, Comedian Kathy Griffin and NFL Jaguars Cheerleaders, (Jill

Cottingham and Mindy Crews).

"I like Sergeant Major Tilley because he was very personable," said Spc. Melissa Martin, a soldier with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade. "He was very entertaining and he had a way of working the crowd," she added.

Tilley introduced the upcoming acts and entertained the audience with stories, jokes and throwing t-shirts and plastic footballs to the crowd.

Soldiers filled the gym and the crowd went wild when the footballs and t-shirts began flying.

"My favorite part was watching

them holler for the free prizes that were being thrown," Martin said.

The Army band played several hits such as, "soul man" and "RESPECT". The band finished off with inspirational music like "God bless the USA".

Jaguars cheerleaders did contests, which involved several soldiers. After the contests Bradshaw expressed his gratitude to the soldiers. "I love you. I love what you do for our country. God bless."

Darryl Worley sang "Back where I belong", which is a song about a soldier who is overseas and is thinking about home. There were some tears in the eyes of many soldiers during his performance.

"Although his (Darryl Worley) songs were depressing I had a very good time. I had fun and it broke the monotony of Camp Doha life," Martin explained.

The show ended with Tilley and all the performers singing, "Stand by Me" and "God bless America", which received a standing ovation at the end.

"Overall the show was fun, I was able to relax, sing and laugh a little. I really liked seeing everyone in the gym having a good time. I am thankful that there are people out there who appreciate our hard work and sacrifice," Sgt. Jennifer Richardson, a soldier who now resides in Camp Doha.

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513th commander addresses brigade team

By Col. Jon Jones
Brigade Commander

Soldiers and civilians of the 513th MI Bde, here's another opportunity for me to tell you what a great and important job you're doing. It's tough being here, and it's tough on our families who miss us. It's tough on the soldiers and civilians at Ft. Gordon, who are working harder in our absence. But everyone must understand why we're here — this is dead-serious business.

We have to defend our country and families. We might do this proactively by not waiting for another Pearl Harbor, or 9-11. It's up to us to get it right and to be ready at precisely the moment our country calls upon us. We need to work hard, with a focus on training to accomplish our mission here in Kuwait and at Ft. Gordon.

We need to let the rest of the world know that we, representing America, are dead serious about our purpose here. The individual and collective determination of American soldiers and civilians is what sends that message. People see that. The media sees



Col. Jon Jones

that. It speaks louder than any speech or press conference. This is what's called the "national element of power," a country's and its army's commitment and will to stand for what it believes. If by the grace of God conflict is avoided, it will be because we are ready, and the world knows it. These are serious words, but remember to keep your sense of humor and look after each other and yourself. We need to rely on one another to lift our spirits. If you need any more motivation for our mis-

sion, you will find it in the knowledge that your country is proud of you.

If it's not evident at this particular moment, it will soon be overwhelming. I know the same goes for our families. It may be hard to see it now, but the hard part is temporary; it will end. The pride in what we are participating in will last forever. We should be equally proud of what our families are going through; they're heroes, too. Be proud of yourselves, and be ready to be part of history. We'll do it right, and history will show that we were part of one of America's finest moments.

Hometown News Release Program

By Maj. Maurice McDougald

There is not much excitement in Janet Doe's life and that is the way she likes it. She's a small-town girl who enjoys living with the rest of the "small-town folks" in Middleburg, Florida. But if you ask her about her grandson, Army Staff Sergeant Justin Doe, she gets excited. She will tell you about his service with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade and you about the letters he writes and the frequent phone calls she gets from him — **and with extra sparkle in her voice, she will tell you about how her grandson made the front page of the *Clay County Times*.**

What is this link that bridges the gap between the

isolation of duty in perhaps a foreign country and family and friends at home? The answer is the **Army and Air Force Hometown News Release Service**, a free service designed to highlight the accomplishments of soldiers serving the military to an audience back home. Accomplishments such as **promotions, awards, arrival to new duty stations, graduation from Army schools, reenlistments, deployments, etc.**, are published in more than 11,000 daily and weekly newspapers throughout the nation. Most papers publish an "in service" column weekly highlighting these accomplishments.

Doe is one of the thousands of soldiers whose stories

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Mirage Newsletter Disclaimer

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513th Military Intelligence Brigade soldiers renew vows



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William Merrifield reads the vows that Sgt. David and Denise Villani will repeat during the ceremony on Camp New York.

By Cpl. Brian Lamar
Mirage editor

In a ten minute ceremony decorated with chemical lights, toilet paper and candles, two soldiers stood before their unit and God and renewed their vows and their love. 28th at Camp New York.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William Merrifield, 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, led Sgt. Denise Villani and Sgt. David Villani, of Company A, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, through the ritual.

The Villani's, who have been married for two and a half years, were quickly married at The Desert Light Church of the Antioch in Las Vegas, but said they wanted something more special that involved their love for God.

"We always wanted to renew our vows in a real church," Denise said. "Being married in the eyes of God is very important to us."

Even though being married on a deployment, virtually in the middle of nowhere, may seem spur of the moment, the Villani's have been planning the ceremony for quite some time.

"I mentioned before we deployed that maybe we should remarry out here because we may not have the opportunity to do so for a long time," David explained. "We knew that there might be a war soon." Denis said.

David talked over the prospect of a ceremony in the desert with Merrifield and they agreed upon a time to conduct the service.

Although a wedding in the desert may not sound too appealing for most

couples, the Villani's said they were surprised of the quality of their ceremony.

"The decorations were great. My co-workers decorated everything for us without much to work with. They lined everything with toilet paper and hung chemical lights and candles," Denise said.

Thirty soldiers turned out for the event, which was the biggest event the 201st has had since they have been deployed to Camp New York.

"Everyone showed up and it turned out to be the event of the Camp," said David. "We were very surprised to have the whole company show up for the event."

The couple said it gave the soldiers a release from the daily grind.

The people who attended enjoyed the ceremony and many tears were shed, Denise said. "The vows were perfect and beautiful. They made so many different people cry." I think this was something positive to see instead of always hearing the negative news on TV and the internet."

Ten-year-old sergeant loses battle, wins hearts

By Spc. Chuck Wagner

FORT MYER, Va. — The headstone will be inscribed “Sgt. Justin Bryce,” even though the dates will show he was much too young to enlist.

His teary-eyed mother’s description of him explains how a 10-year-old deserved every chevron.

“He was a brave little boy. It didn’t matter what struggle he had to go through, he just faced them. I think the way he used to look at it was that no matter how tough life seems, you can still overcome everything. And he always had a smile,” said Mary Bryce from the family’s Grene, N.Y. home.

Justin knew something about struggles. He spent months battling liver cancer, which spread and wracked his small body.

Justin’s request to the Make-A-Wish foundation was to outrank his brother, Pvt. Raymond Bryce of 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld told the Army to make it happen.

Over a few blustery November days, Justin enlisted and was promoted at the Pentagon, climbed around inside an opulent limousine on his way to Fort Belvoir where he shot an M-16 with night-vision goggles and commanded an M-111 personnel carrier.

Near day’s end, the Army whisked him over Washington aboard a Blackhawk in a last-

minute, unscheduled flight because soldiers heard him ask, “Can I fly in a helicopter?”

He rested that evening looking out over Baltimore Harbor aboard a Coast Guard ship. Ships, you see, were another of Justin’s passions.

“Even up to a couple of days before, he was still calling himself sergeant,” his mother said.

Justin, unresponsive over Christmas Eve, died at home Christmas day surrounded by the entire extended family. Scores of friends visited him during calling hours on Dec. 28. Six National Guard soldiers from a local armory took turns standing vigil for four hours. The family dressed Justin in the battle dress uniform issued to him and hung his ID tags around his neck. His mother shined his boots.

Services were held for the family the next day. Justin’s formal burial is planned in spring.

Instead of seeing Disney World, Justin had asked to join the Army family. His mother says he quickly realized how the Army takes care of its own.

More than 40,000 people have logged on the Web site www.caringbridge.org/ny/justinbryce, to read about Justin

and leave messages for him and his family. Many of the messages, as well as hundreds of e-mails to his mother, are from service

“Even up to a couple of days before, he was still calling himself sergeant,”

members. More arrive every day.

“Sgt. Justin, keep fighting and it was my honor to get to know you and my pleasure to serve with you in the Army,” wrote 1st Sgt. Lee Branham before Christmas.

“May God give you strength to carry on each passing day. God Bless You,” Staff Sgt. Gerald Canada wrote to the family after Justin’s funeral. His mother prints out e-mailed letters from service members to put in Justin’s keepsake book, which is bulging with notes, autographs, and pictures of a proud, bald, freckled sergeant surrounded by his Army buddies.

“It touches my heart. You guys are very, very caring. Justin picked the right group of people,” Mary said.

Editor’s note: Spc. Chuck Wagner is a staff writer for the Pentagon newspaper at Fort Myer.

NCO: commitment to leadership

By Command Sgt. Maj. Carnell Draughn

In the military, the mere mention of the word leadership causes one to either reflect back on their experiences as a leader or to reminisce about those that were instrumental in shaping their lives. Leadership applies to everyday life whether it's in the civilian job market or the military. In the military the word is near and dear to just about everyone, whether they're in a leadership position or not. Many of those who are not in a leadership position are constantly striving to get there. When we take the words military and leadership and combine them, we create two powerful words that clearly define what the military is truly all about. Each branch of service has its own means of accomplishing objectives with military leadership being the key to overall mission accomplishment.

Throughout the Army's history, the Noncommissioned Officer Corps and the Noncommissioned Officer have withstood the test of time and continues to do so. The NCO is always at the ready for whatever challenges that he or she may be called upon to do. Being a noncommissioned officer is synonymous with being a leader. In addition to the two key words, military and leadership, the word "commitment" goes hand in hand with them in defining the duties of a NCO.

Paragraph two of the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer states that all soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership." No doubt about it, being a leader and pro-

viding leadership is hard work. If it were easy, everyone would want to do it. Your ability or inability to lead will become reflective of those that you lead. It is quite true that you will spend about ninety percent of your time taking care of problem soldiers and you'll have to try to squeeze the other ten percent



CSM Carnell Draughn

into taking care of those that truly deserve your outstanding leadership. As bad as this may seem, it's what being a leader is all about. You are expected to handle difficult situations and make tough and sometimes rather unpopular decisions. As a leader and a NCO, you will make personal sacrifices practically every day of your military career. Despite the sacrifices though, no job is more rewarding than that of a NCO.

Noted former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell stated in his autobiography titled *My American Journey*; "leadership is solving problems." The day that soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help them or concluded you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership." As a leader, you don't want to be looked upon in this way.

There are two reasons why leadership is important to you with number one being "to win wars." The second reason is that your "soldiers (people) deserve nothing less." Always bear in mind that when the Army decided to make you a leader, you were entrusted with the country's most precious commodity; its young people. When you took the oath and agreed to become a leader, you entered into a pact with your subordinates and this country. Never ever forget your commitment to provide the necessary leadership that our soldiers require and deserve. Furthermore, never forget that it's an honor to be a NCO, not a right.

"There are two reasons why leadership is important to you with number one being 'to win wars' ,"

Vigilant knights remember soldier, friend



Photo by Cpl. Brian Lamar

Merrifield conducts the invocation during the ceremony in the Camp Doha Chapel.

By Cpl. Brian Lamar
Mirage editor

On a cold and dreary morning in Camp Doha, Kuwait, soldiers from the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade filed into the crowded post chapel 5 Jan. to pay respects and say goodbye to Pfc. Idorenyin Ekanem, a soldier with the 201st MI Bn.

The ceremony began with an invocation given by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William Merrifield, which immediately after everyone stood to sing “America the Beautiful”.

After the song, two readings from the bible were given. Psalms 139 and first Corinthians 15: 51-58.

“Amazing Grace” was sung after the readings, which led into a memorial tribute of a

poem reading and a Eulogy by friend, Pfc. Matthew Crusan, whom gave a personal account of who Ekanem was.

“ID (his nickname) was a great guy who was always there for his friends. It never mattered whether the problem was small or large, he always wanted to be there,” Crusan said.

He went on to add, “I loved Ekanem as a brother and as a brother I will always miss him.”

Ekanem also received an Army Commendation Medal posthumously.

“He received a medal for his contributions in helping get the brigade deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom,” said Sgt. Jessica Clayton, Ekanem’s squad leader.

“He was quite a loss. He was an extremely hard worker. He always seemed pretty happy. He was a good person to talk to with something funny to say and

the squad is at an extreme loss,” said Clayton.

In closing, a last roll call was given followed by Taps. There were not many dry eyes in the crowd by the song’s end.

With a benediction, Merrifield closed the ceremony and everyone left the chapel with somber looks on their faces.

“You have to understand that anytime a unit loses a soldier it is a great loss to everyone. He will be missed,” Clayton stated.



Photo by Cpl. Brian Lamar

This is a static display honoring Ekanem at the Camp Doha Chapel ceremony.

NEWS

Soldiers, families reunite via teleconference

By Cpl. Brian Lamar
Mirage editor

Many soldiers who are deployed to Kuwait would have loved to see their husbands, wives or children for the holidays. With the courtesy of the 513th military intelligence brigade and through the wonders of technology, that has been made a possibility.

The 513th has sponsored a number of video teleconferencing sessions for soldiers and families to be united for the holidays.

"It was very nice to see my family again. It helped me make sure that they were okay and were able to celebrate the season (Christmas) without being down and out because I was not able to be there," said Janice

Williams, a soldier who works in Brigade Operations Center for the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade.

Many soldiers viewed this as an escape from Camp Doha for a short while,

About twenty-two hours of video teleconferencing sessions were scheduled for 142 soldiers during the holidays between Dec. 21 and Jan. 1 for ten-minute segments each.

Although modern science and technology makes it easier for soldiers to stay in contact with family and friends, the process is not necessarily a simple one.

"It was a real big headache trying to coordinate the VTCs. We had to coordinate so that business VTCs didn't override morale VTCs." Said

Sgt. 1st Class Denny Smith, the brigade automations NCOIC.

"Although we would be good here (Camp Doha), in Gordon a business VTC would be going on," he added. "Getting times for families and soldiers coordinated together was also a headache."

Eventhough it is a popular belief that the money pot for a military intelligence unit is bottomless, money was a small concern.

"Airtime for a VTC is not cheap," said Smith. "The average cost runs us from \$20 to about \$30 for a ten minute block," he explained.

"The VTCs are costly, but in my opinion it is worth it to see our troops happy," said Col. Jon Jones, The 513th Military Intelligence



Photo by Maj. Maurice McDougald

Play ball!

During one of the few moments of downtime on Camp Doha, Capt. Judith Boyd, the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, prepares to hit a softball, while Command Sgt. Maj. Carnell Draughn awaits behind the plate to catch a missed swing. The 513th tries to coordinate a sports day each week on Sunday for unit morale and camaraderie.

NEWS



Photo by Cpl. Brian Lamar

513th fun run

Col. Jon Jones runs backward in front of his formation to view his troops progression during the CFLCC commander's run on Camp Doha Dec. 22.

The 513th was just one of many units that participated in a formation that stretched over a quarter of a mile long. The fast-paced run lasted for approximately three miles.



Spc. Abner Conception of the 345th Military Intelligence Battalion reenlisted on Camp Doha, Kuwait. Maj. Gen. James Marks reenlisted Conception. He also was promoted to Sergeant on the same day.

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are featured every year by the Hometown News Release Service based at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. The feature story and photos of Does' service with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade strikes at the heart of the mission of Army Public Affairs, to tell the Army's story. The form that turns information such as name, rank, next-of-kin tie and event into an actual news release is the DD Form 2266. The HTNR program is a commander's program, administered by the public affairs office. It provides commanders with a quick, simple way to showcase the accomplishments and activities of their soldiers and the soldier to receive hometown recognition. A soldier simply fills out a DD Form 2266 and forwards it through the public affairs office to Hometown News, who uses it to produce a news release which is marketed to hometown newspapers in locations where the soldier has family ties. Photographs are not required, but may be submitted with the DD Form 2266 if desired.

This is a simple program affording soldiers hometown recognition for their accomplishments. We owe it to our soldiers to simply (1) fill out a DD Form 2266 upon promotions, awards, school completions, and reenlistments—(2) market (electronic) to hometown newspapers—(3) and inform family members/friends of the great performance of their loved ones.

Community Happenings

For February

1 Black history display at Library	2 Groundhog's Day	3 Spa Day at Marble Palace 1-9 p.m.	4 Comedian Tom Stade at Frosty's 7 p.m.	5 EEO presents "Souls of Black Folk" Dinner and Dance at Marble Palace 7 p.m.	6 Singles ping-pong tournament at Marble Palace
7 Tom Hanks day on CCTV	8 Bench Press Competition at Gym	9 Chess Night 7 p.m. at Marble Palace	10 Poker Night 8 p.m. at Frosty's	11 8-ball tournament 7 p.m. at Frosty's	

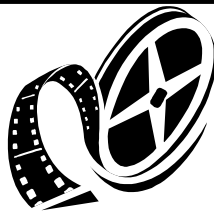
Movie schedule

Camp Doha Theater, Bldg. 14

February 1

6 p.m.....Good Advice

8 p.m.....Transporter



February 2

6 p.m.....Banger Sisters

8 p.m.....Serving Sara

Feb 3-5

Theater scheduled for post meetings

SCHEDULED MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION DUE TO SUBSEQUENT SCHEDULING OF TRAINING/BRIEFINGS

Doha Chapel Services

Protestant

Friday:.....11 a.m.

Sunday:.....10:30 a.m.

Catholic

Thursday:.....4:30 p.m.

Friday:.....3:30 p.m.

Sunday:.....12:30 a.m.

Episcopal

Friday:.....8 a.m.

Latter Day Saints

Friday:.....2 p.m.

Gospel

Sunday:.....7 p.m.

Orthodox

Friday:.....9 a.m.

Saturday:.....8 p.m.

Sunday:.....7:30 a.m.

Jewish

Friday:.....6:30 p.m.